

Appl. No. 09/839,510
Amdt. Dated January 7, 2005
Reply to Office action of November 3, 2004
Attorney Docket No. P14506-US1
EUS/J/P/05-1007

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached three (3) sheets of drawings include proposed changes to Figures 1, 2A and 2B.

Attachment: Annotated Sheets of Drawings Showing Changes

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

The Applicant has cancelled claims 1-19 and 27 and amended claims 20, 22, 26 and 30; no new matter has been added by the amendments. Claims 20-26 and 28-31 remain pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Examiner Objections – Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings for including reference characters not mentioned in the description, or failing to include reference characters mentioned in the description. In order to overcome the Examiner's objections, the Applicants have made amendments to the specification and submit herewith proposed amendments to Figures 1, 2A and 2B. The Examiner's approval of the proposed drawing replacement sheets, and amended specification, is respectfully requested; the Applicants will submit formal replacement sheets upon the Examiner's approval.

3.) Examiner Objections – Specification

The Examiner objected to the specification because of an incorrect drawing reference. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for his careful review of the specification. The Applicant has corrected the error in the amendments to the specification submitted herein.

4.) Examiner Objections - Claims

The Examiner objected to claims 7, 9-19, 22-25, 26-29 and 30-31 for certain informalities. Claims 7, 9-19 and 27 have been cancelled and, therefore, the objection thereto is moot. The Applicants have amended claims 22, 26 and 30 to provide the meaning of the acronym "ICU;" the amendment to those claims also overcomes the Examiner's objections to claims 23-25, 28-29 and 31, which are dependent from claims 22, 26 and 30, respectively. Whereas no other objections or rejections were made by the Examiner to claims 22-25 and 30-31, those claims are now allowable. Furthermore,

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no other objections or rejections were made by the Examiner to claim 27. Thus, claim 26, which has been amended to include the limitations of claim 27, is now allowable; and claims 28-29, which are dependent from claim 26 and include the limitations thereof, are also now allowable.

5.) Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner rejected claims 1-21 as being "based on a disclosure which is not enabling," with a recommended claim amendment to overcome the rejection. Claims 1-19 have been cancelled and, therefore, the rejection thereof is moot. Claim 20 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's recommendation in order to overcome the rejection; that amendment also overcomes the Examiner's rejection of claim 21, which is dependent from claim 20. Whereas no other objections or rejections were made by the Examiner to claims 20 and 21, those claims are now allowable.

* * *

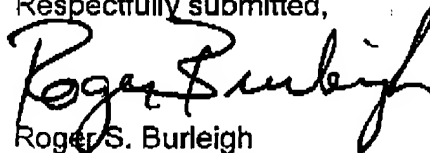
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 20-26 and 28-31.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: January 7, 2005
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